

Parish Newsletter



**Fourth Sunday of Advent.
18th December 2016.**

No 1580

Matthew 1:18-24

THE MISSING CHRIST



Only last Saturday, 10th December President Higgins gave the first of his Annual Christmas themed addresses at the annual lighting of the Christmas tree at Áras an Uachtaráin. In what was an emotive appeal for peace and joy between family and friends, he also issued a reminder not to forget those for whom the season was difficult and those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Whilst it was a commendable and timely reminder of family values and civic duty, it remained on the whole an emotive and fuzzy articulation of what life should be on a daily basis. As in previous years, nothing was mentioned as to what marked out the time of the year as a special time of commemoration and good will.

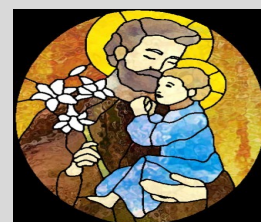
Nowhere in our President's speech was the name Jesus mentioned nor even alluded to. The real reason for the season remained hidden. How telling it is when the President of our country sees fit to give Santa a mention twice and leave the Christ child in the cold. Does that truly represent the Ireland of today? Does that represent the vision our founding volunteers had when they dreamed about a new nation free of shackle and chain? Did they envisage one free of Christ? I really don't think so. Any amount of research will quickly show that their hearts were echoing the words we find in St. Paul's letter this morning. Ireland! You are one of [of many] nations, and by God's call belong to Jesus Christ. Our land is speckled with testaments to our faith both new and ancient. Lest we forget even our world-renowned Proclamation opened with the words: "In the name of God ..."

If previous years are anything to go by, Jesus will not find a place on the pages of some of the 'developed world' leaders festive greetings and speeches and on account of this omission the world and its significance is bereft of a context. It is important to remember, however, that Jesus did not come into the world to simply remain on the pages of a speech or indeed even in a book. He came so that we "may have life and have it to the full" (Jn 10:10). He came so that His first coming would result in His taking up residence within the human heart. The beautiful lyrics of the hymn written by Johann Angelus Silesius presents this notion eloquently when it says "Though Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born, If He's not born in thee Thy soul is still forlorn." Do not let this Christmas pass without extending an invitation to the Christ child to come and rest within.

Afternoon Retreat.....takes place to-day, Sunday 18th December at 2pm in Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballycane with Holy Hour, Rosary, Anointing of the Sick and concluding with Holy of Mass. Conducted by Fr. Liam Morgan.

All welcome. Refreshments will be served during the break.

St. Joseph's Young Priest Society.



Christmas Collection in support of the Priests of the Parish will take place at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. You may make your contribution by using the envelope in your box or alternatively you may make your contribution along with the Offertory Collection.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

PRIEST ON DUTY: 085 708 8407

PARISH WEBSITE: www.naasparish.ie

NAAS AND SALLINS PARISH OFFICE Tel 879730 Fax 894287

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm

Naas email naasparishoffice@gmail.com

Sallins email sallinsparishoffice@gmail.com

SACRISTY OUR LADY AND ST DAVID: Tel 856925

BALLYCANE OFFICE AND SACRISTY : Tel 895629

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm

PARISH TEAM

FR. LIAM MORGAN Sallins Road 087 1337879

FR. JOE O'NEILL Sundays Well 876197

FR MICHAEL FLATTERY SALLINS ROAD 089 4985973

FR ALEX KOCHATT LAKELANDS 045 898684

DN. FERGA O'NEILL Parish Deacon 086 3816133

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Naas: Andrew Fagan and Geraldine Faherty

Two Mile House: Anita Comer Julian

They can be contacted through the Parish Office, Sallins Road, Naas. Phone 045 879730.

"When Joseph awoke he did as the angel of the Lord directed him." Are you prayerfully vigilant about discovering your vocation in Christ? Might He be inviting you to the priesthood? Contact: Fr. Ruairi O' Domhnaill. Email vocations@kandle.ie: www.kandlepriest.com

THOSE WHO DIE IN GRACE GO BUT TO GOD

AND GOD IS VERY NEAR"

Naas:

Mary Farrell, Mountain View

Patrick May, Pacelli Road

John Doran, Sarto Road

Noel Delaney, Patrician Avenue

Sallins:

Ellen Corcoran, Osberstown Cottages

Margaret Molly Kelly (Mags), Oldbridge Station

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

RECENT BAPTISMS

Naas:

Millie Therese Branagan, Hunters Wood

Elsie Sarah Ginty, Prosperous.



MASS TIMES

CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. DAVID , SALLINS ROAD

WEEKDAYS: Mon-Fri 7.30am and 10am , Sat 10am

SUNDAYS: Sat Vigil 6pm Sun 9am, 11am and 6pm

CHURCH OF THE IRISH MARTYRS, BALLYCANE

WEEKDAYS: Mon, Wed and Fri 7.30pm

SUNDAYS: Sat Vigil 7.30pm Sun 10.30am, 12noon

CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND THE GUARDIAN ANGELS, SALLINS

WEEKDAYS: Tuesday and FRIDAY 10am

SUNDAYS: Sat Vigil 6.30pm Sun 10am and 12noon

CHURCH OF ST. PETER, TWO MILE HOUSE

WEEKDAYS: Friday 7pm

SUNDAYS: 11am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. DAVID , SALLINS ROAD

Every First Friday before and after the 10am Mass

Every Saturday after the 10am Mass

Sallins:

Ted James Murphy, Australia

For those requesting the Sacrament of Baptism two weeks notice is required. Further details of Baptisms in Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House Parish at www.naasparish.ie/sacraments/baptism.

NAAS PARISH NEWS

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT - *'The Catholic Parish of Naas, in Communion with Christ and with one another and guided by the teaching of the Second Vatican Council, endeavours to welcome, serve and nourish the whole community.'*

St Joseph's Young Priest Society next meeting takes place tomorrow, Monday 19th December at 8pm in the Parish Centre at the Church Irish Martyr's, Ballycane. Adoration from 8pm to 9.30pm.

St Pio Prayer Group next meeting on Wednesday coming, 21st December at 7.10pm in the Church of the Irish Martyr's, Ballycane. All welcome.

Christmas Flowers/Plants for Christmas; We would be most grateful for the donations of flowers (Red) and Poinsettias for the decoration of Our Lady and St David's Church for Christmas. They can be left at the Sanctuary area of the church up to and including Tuesday coming 20th December. Thanking you in advance.

Naas Parish Development Envelope Boxes for coming year are now available for collection from the Church Porches or the Parish Office. Your support for this collection is and as always very much appreciated. It would greatly facilitate accurate record-keeping for tax relief purposes if you could write your name and address on the first few envelopes you return. ***"A sincere Thank you to all who contribute to our collections"***.

Mothers Prayers at the Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballycane on Wednesday's at 8.15pm.

Parish Office, Sallins Road will be on Saturday coming 24th from 10am to 4pm.

The Parish Office will also be open on Wednesday/Thursday/Friday/Saturday 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st December from 10am to 12noon to facilitate with Mass cards only.

Booking Anniversary Masses; In order to make sure names are included for Anniversary Masses we kindly ask that people would contact the Parish Office Sallins Road or the Ballycane Office at their earliest convenience (at least a week in advance).

SALLINS NOTICE

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday coming, 20th December from 10.30am to 11am.

Sallins Parish Development Envelope Boxes for coming year are now available for collection from the Church Porches. Your support for this collection is and as always very much appreciated. It would greatly facilitate accurate record-keeping for tax relief purposes if you could write your name and address on the first few envelopes you return. ***"A sincere Thank You to all who contribute to our collections"***.

Confessions available in Sallins Church every Thursday from 2pm to 4pm.

Sallins Scouts Christmas Day Canal Swim. Come along and support the Sallins Scouts swimmers on Christmas Day morning after 10am Mass at the canal. There will be hot chocolate available to keep everyone warmed up at this festive time.

TWO MILE HOUSE PARISH NEWS

Weekday morning Mass at 9.15am, Monday to Thursday, at St. Peter's Church.

GENERAL NOTICES

Parish Finances:

Sallins: Baskets:	€ 505	Envelopes:	€ 502
Naas: Offertory:	€4,270	Development	€3,105
Two Mile House:	€ 625		

Naas Parish Lotto:

There was **One Winner** in this week's Parish Lotto.
The numbers drawn were **3- 4- 5- 7**.

Next weeks Jackpot €1,250 on Wednesday 21st December, draw at 7pm.

Please note there will be **no** Lotto Draws on Wednesday 28th December or 4th January.

The Lotto Committee would like to thank ticket sellers and all the people who continue to support our draw and we wish you and all your families a very Happy and Holy Christmas and every good wish for 2017.

Sports Lottery Results:

Naas: 8/12 (10-12-13-27, No winner, Jackpot €3,700

Sallins: 12/12 (22-24-29) No winner. Jackpot €1,450

Goal Mile from 11am to 12noon on Christmas morning at Naas GAA, Sallins Road. Bring your family, friends and others to run, walk crawl the mile. Sponsor Cards available if required. Phone 086 8448530 or 087 6305515, or see Goal website.

Congratulations: The 7th Annual Pope John Paul II Award Ceremony took place on 2nd December in Askea with a total of 295 young people from the Diocese received their Pope John Paul II Awards from Bishop Denis Nulty. 35 young people from Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House received their Papal Cross Awards. These young people are involved in many Ministries in our parishes —17 of the Awardees were part of the Diocesan Group who travelled to World Youth Day in Krakow in July with Bishop Denis. We warmly welcome any new students in Transition Year in our Parish Secondary Schools who would like to sign up for Gold JP II Award. If interested phone Grace on 087-9838343, JP II Parish Co-Ordinator. We also welcome Fr. Joe O'Neill who is joining the group.

Owen Lynch and Choir Concert 'O Holy Night' Concert takes place tonight, Sunday 18th at 8.30pm in Newbridge Parish Church. Tickets from Veronica at 087-7940850. *"A beautiful and magical night awaits."*

Nás na Rí Singers Christmas Gala Concert in aid of the Moat Theatre's Fundraising Effort takes place tomorrow, Monday 19th at 8pm. Tickets from the oaf box office at 045 883030.

Trocaire Christmas Gifts are now on sale at the Veritas Shop. Help make a life-changing difference to families in some of our poorest countries.

Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House Christmas Timetable 2016

Penance Service: Monday 19th December in Our Lady and St David's Church at **8pm**.

Confessions.....**Christmas Eve** in Our Lady and St David's Church from 10.30am to 1pm.

Masses Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

Our Lady and St David's Church:

Christmas Eve	5pm	7pm	9pm	and 12 Midnight
Christmas Day	9am	11am	12.30pm	

Irish Martyrs Church:

Christmas Eve	4pm	6pm	8pm
Christmas Day	10.30am	12noon	

Our Lady and The Guardian Angels Church, Sallins:

Christmas Eve	5pm	6.30pm	9pm
Christmas Day	10am	12noon	

St. Peter's Church, Two Mile House

Christmas Eve	9pm
Christmas Day	11am

Weekday Masses

From Monday 26th December to Thursday 5th January (inclusive)

10am Mass only in Our Lady and St David's Church.

No other weekday Masses in Ballycane, Sallins or Two Mile House.

(Normal Mass schedule resumes on Monday 9th January)

Parish Website: www.naasparish.ie

Feast of the Epiphany Friday 6th January

Our Lady and St David's Church:	7.30am and 10am
Church of the Irish Martyrs:	12noon and 7.30pm
Sallins:	10am
Two Mile House:	7pm

St Vincent de Paul would like to express their sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously to their recent Annual Appeal Collection in Naas, Sallins and Two Mile House and to all who made their contribution through the 'Vincent' shops or posted it directly to P.O. Box 1, Naas. To date your generosity has raised €36,104.....This will greatly assist us with our in helping those in need in our Community this Christmas and in the year ahead. Thank You and we wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.
St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 045 897306

Alcoholics Anonymous: AA meetings are held in the Portacabin in the main grounds of St David's Church of Ireland, Main Street, Naas (**beside Donals**) on:

Monday and Thursday nights at 8.30pm;

Monday and Wednesday afternoon at 1pm.

AA meetings also in the Community Centre, Sallins Rd:

Tuesday and Friday afternoons at 1pm

Saturday evenings at 7.30pm.

For further details phone 085 7300357.

AI-Anon meetings Monday nights at 8.15pm in Parish Centre, Ballycane (Tuesday on Bank Holiday)